

ARGUMENT in Favor of Proposition 1A

PROPOSITION 1A—A HISTORIC AGREEMENT TO PROTECT LOCAL TAXPAYERS AND VITAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES.

Proposition 1A is a historic bipartisan agreement among local governments, public safety leaders, the State Legislature, Republican Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, and is authored by Democratic State Senator Tom Torlakson.

Proposition 1A prevents the State from taking and using funding that local governments need to provide services like fire and paramedic response, law enforcement, health care, parks, and libraries.

These individuals and groups urge a YES vote:

- Governor Schwarzenegger
- State Controller Steve Westly
- California Professional Firefighters
- California Fire Chiefs Association
- California Police Chiefs Association
- California State Sheriffs' Association
- California Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems
- League of California Cities
- California Special Districts Association
- California State Association of Counties

PROPOSITION 1A IS NEEDED TO STOP THE STATE FROM TAKING LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING.

For more than a dozen years, the State has been taking local tax dollars that local governments use to provide essential services—more than \$40 billion in the last 12 years. Even in years with state budget surpluses, the State has taken billions of local tax dollars.

These State raids result in fewer firefighters, fewer law enforcement officers, longer waits in emergency rooms—or higher local taxes and fees.

PROPOSITION 1A PROTECTS PUBLIC SAFETY, EMERGENCY HEALTH CARE, AND OTHER LOCAL SERVICES.

Local governments spend a vast majority of their budgets providing critical services, including:

- Fire protection
- Paramedic response
- Law enforcement
- Emergency medical
- Health care
- Parks and libraries

Cities and counties also revitalize downtowns and create jobs and affordable housing using redevelopment agency funding. Redevelopment agency tax increment revenues are already protected by the State Constitution and do not need to be further protected by Proposition 1A.

PROPOSITION 1A PROTECTS LOCAL TAXPAYERS AND WON'T RAISE TAXES.

Proposition 1A will *not* raise taxes. It simply ensures that *existing* local tax dollars continue to be dedicated to local services. It also helps *ensure local governments aren't forced to raise taxes or fees to make up for revenue raided by the State.*

PROPOSITION 1A PROVIDES FLEXIBILITY IN A STATE BUDGET EMERGENCY—AND WON'T TAKE FUNDING FROM SCHOOLS OR OTHER STATE PROGRAMS.

Proposition 1A protects only *existing* levels of local funding. It does not reduce funding for schools or other state programs. And, 1A was carefully written to allow flexibility. It allows the State to *borrow* local government revenues—only in the event of a fiscal emergency—if funds are needed to support schools or other state programs.

PROPOSITION 1A IS A BETTER APPROACH THAT REPLACES THE NEED FOR PROPOSITION 65.

Proposition 65 was put on the ballot earlier this year before this historic agreement was reached. Proposition 1A is a better, more flexible approach to protect local services and tax dollars. That's why ALL of the official proponents of 65 are now ENDORSING PROPOSITION 1A AND OPPOSING PROPOSITION 65.

Join Governor Schwarzenegger, Senator Torlakson, firefighters, police officers, sheriffs, paramedics, health care leaders, taxpayers, business and labor leaders.

PROTECT LOCAL TAXPAYERS AND PUBLIC SAFETY. Vote YES on PROPOSITION 1A. Vote NO on PROPOSITION 65.

GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

CHIEF MICHAEL WARREN, *President*

California Fire Chiefs Association

SHERIFF ROBERT T. DOYLE, *President*

California State Sheriffs' Association

REBUTTAL to Argument in Favor of Proposition 1A

Proposition 1A was cooked up at the last minute as part of a bad budget deal.

There were no public hearings.

Proposition 1A protects local governments, but it hurts education by allowing the State to raid your property taxes that fund your local schools. And it puts that into the State Constitution!

Proposition 1A prevents the Legislature from lowering taxes by locking in the local sales tax rate. That goes into the State Constitution too!

Proposition 1A jeopardizes critical programs. As California's fiscal challenges continue, the State budget

ax will fall even harder on funding for K–12 education, higher education, children's health care, programs for seniors, and public safety.

Proposition 1A gives local politicians a blank check without any scrutiny over how the money is spent.

We can do better. We deserve better.

Vote NO on Proposition 1A.

CAROLE MIGDEN, *Chairwoman*

State Board of Equalization